

Local Work Group development of local EQIP.

AITKIN

District FY08 EQIP

1. List the local resource concerns that EQIP can address:

Water Quality	Soil Erosion
Forest Management	Climatic change
Land fragmentation	Wildlife Habitat
Invasive species	Grazing Systems
Bio fuels	Providing Livestock Water due to 2006/07 Drought

2. If applicable, list any geographic regions (i.e. watersheds, townships, etc.) and their respective resource concerns within the District to receive priority:

Sites within 1 mile of Aitkin County Sharp Tail Leks – wildlife habitat

All projects located within shore land zones. Generally defined as within 1000 feet of a lake or 300 feet of a river. – water quality

All projects located within Mille Lacs watershed or within 1/2 mile of the Mississippi and/or its tributaries – water quality

3. From items 1 & 2 above prioritize the local resource concerns to be addressed with EQIP funding for the district. Describe a minimum of 3 categories of the highest priority applications which you would want to receive funding.

Applications addressing water quality

Applications with prescribed grazing practices

Applications providing livestock water due to 2006/07 drought

Applications with forest management practices

Applications that control invasive species

4. Develop a minimum of 3 and maximum of 12 yes/no questions to determine if an application is addressing the high priority concerns described in item 3.

WATER QUALITY – The application will install practices to address water quality concerns within the Mille Lacs watershed or within ½ mile of the Mississippi and/or its tributaries. 15 points

WATER QUALITY – The application will install projects outside of the Mille Lacs & Mississippi sites that are within 1000 feet of a lake or 300 feet of a river. 12 points

WATER QUALITY and SOIL EROSION – Will practices be installed that assist in implementing a prescribed grazing system? (This can include livestock water due to drought) 13 points

FOREST MANAGEMENT – Will this practice establish forest management practices such as forest site prep, tree & shrub establishment and forest stand improvement? 10 points

AT RISK SPECIES – Will this practice benefit species of concern (white pine, red pine & sharp-tailed grouse) or control invasive species? 10 points

5. **Assign points to the questions in Item #4 as desired to reflect local priorities. The total points assigned to the questions must equal 35 to 60 points.**
6. **Submit this worksheet to your respective ASTC(FO). After approval from the state office, the questions will be entered into the Local Issues section of the ranking tool.**
7. **List any recommended practices to be deleted from the state Conservation Practice Payment Document. NONE**

The local EQIP program description, cost-share docket changes, and ranking worksheet must be reviewed and approved by the State Conservationist before any EQIP contract is approved and signed.

This document serves as the Local Work Group recommendation for FY 08 EQIP. Attached is a roster of participation in the Local Work Group.

Chair, Local Work Group

Date